

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

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***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - April 11, 2006**

United States Attorney Carol Lam announced that attorney Benjamin S. Gage pled guilty today to a one-count, felony Information charging him with bankruptcy fraud, arising out of Gage's filing of a personal Chapter 13 Voluntary Petition for Bankruptcy. Gage entered his guilty plea before United States Magistrate Judge Louisa Porter, subject to final acceptance of the plea by the Honorable Barry Ted Moskowitz, United States District Judge, at the time of sentencing.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Faith Devine, who is prosecuting the case, pursuant to a plea agreement with the United States, Gage admitted that on November 14, 2003, he filed a Chapter 13 Voluntary Petition for Bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of California. Gage further admitted that he made false statements under penalty of perjury and omitted material facts about his assets in the Schedules and Statement of Financial Affairs that were filed with the Voluntary Petition. Specifically, Gage failed to disclose that he transferred stock in various corporations that he owned prior to filing bankruptcy.

A hearing is scheduled before Judge Moskowitz on July 21, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. for final acceptance of the plea and sentencing.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**DEFENDANT**

Benjamin S. Gage

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Count 1: Bankruptcy Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 152): Maximum punishment of 5 years' imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, and three years supervised release.

**AGENCY**

Federal Bureau of Investigation